

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10
IO-13 OIC-02 L-03 STR-04 AGR-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00
COME-00 ITC-01 SS-15 SP-02 H-01 NSC-05 CIAE-00
DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 AID-05
IGA-02 EPG-02 /129 W

-----231113Z 003287 /10

R 230829Z MAY 77

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7572

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ANTANARIVO

AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY DACCA

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AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 3 GENEVA 4001

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: UNCTAD, ETRD

SUBJ: SUGAR NEGOTIATIONS: MEETINGS OF MAY 20

1. SUMMARY: AS INTERNATIONAL SUGAR AGREEMENT (ISA) NEGOTIATIONS REACHED A CRUNCH POINT, CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN ERNEST JONES-PARRY, SPEAKING TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, CALLED FOR A MORE SERIOUS EFFORT, QUASHED RUMORS OF AN ADDITIONAL WEEK OF MEETINGS AND SET UP A WORKING GROUP OF 15 COUNTRIES WHICH MET BRIEFLY IN THE AFTERNOON. LATER IN THE EVENING THE BIG SEVEN EXPORTERS MET WITH THE BIG THREE IMPORTERS. AT THAT MEETING THE EXPORTERS PRESENTED A NEW PROPOSAL FOR FINANCING OF STOCKS. END SUMMARY.

2. CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN ERNEST JONES-PARRY, SPEAKING TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MADE UP OF THE WHOLE OF THE CONFERENCE UNDERLINED THE GROWING SKEPTICISM THE CONFERENCE WOULD SUCCEED.

HE REJECTED A PROPOSAL TO EXTEND THE CONFERENCE BEYOND
MAY 27. WORKING GROUPS I-V AND THE STATISTICAL COMMITTEE
REPORT ARE TO BE SUBMITTED BY THE AFTERNOON OF TUESDAY,
MAY 24. JONES-PARRY EXPRESSED HIS VIEW THAT THE CONFERENCE
COULD STRIVE TO BRING AN AGREEMENT BY MAY 27 OR DELEGATIONS
COULD DECIDE NOT TO MOVE ONE INCH FROM THE POSITIONS THEY
BROUGHT TO THE CONFERENCE. THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY A LONG
EC (MALVE) INTERVENTION, THE MAIN POINTS OF WHICH WERE:

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IGA-02 AGR-05 /129 W

-----231503Z 006526 /41

R 230829Z MAY 77

FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7573
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
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(A) THE EC INTENTION TO PUT THREE MILLION TONS OF SUGAR ON

THE WORLD MARKET; (B) A CALL FOR ISA BASED ON 4.5 MILLION TON STOCK; (C) BURDEN-SHARING BETWEEN EXPORTERS AND IMPORTERS; (D) REJECTION OF THE US STABILIZATION FUND; (E) AN 8-20 CENT PRICE RANGE; AND (F) A CALL FOR LATIN AMERICAN (READ CUBA) PRODUCERS NOT TO LOSE SIGHT OF US AND EC PRICE GOALS. ONLY MAURITIUS (SAUZIER) THANKED THE EC FOR ITS INTERVENTION, CONGRATULATED THEM ON THEIR ADVANCED THINKING AND STATED THE PONTS WOULD RESULT IN AN EFFECTIVE ISA, BUT NOT IN THIS SESSION.

3. CHAIRMAN JONESPARRY SET UP A 15 MEMBER CONTACT GROUP (CUBA, US, JAPAN, MAURITIUS, PHILIPPINES, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, AUSTRALIA, ARGENTINA, SOUTH AFRICA, SWEDEN, THILAND, USSR, EC, BRAZIL, CANADA). JONES-PARRY'S REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON THE INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS GOING ON AMONG SOME PARTICIPANTS WAS MET BY SILENCE. HE SAID ANY FORMULA SOLUTION ON THE QUOTA QUESTION FILLED HIM WITH DESPAIR. THE US REQUESTED A DEVELOPING IMPORTER BE ADDED TO THE GROUP. MAURITIUS, SWEDEN AND THE EC REQUESTED A PROGRESS REPORT ON THE STOCK QUESTION THE US RESPONDED THERE WAS NOT MUCH PROGRESS ON STOCKS. CHAIRMAN JONESPARRY VIEWED THE PROBLEMS OF HIGHER MINIMUM STOCKS AS LEGION. MAURITIUS SAID THAT IF

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THE CONFERENCE WAS NOT PREPARED TO MAKE PROGRESS ON STOCKS
WE SHOULD ALL RETURN HOME. THE NEXT MEETING OF THE GROUP IS
SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, MAY 24.

3. AT THE MEETING OF 11 (CUBA, BRAZIL, ARGENTINA, AUSTRALIA,
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, PHILIPPINES, SOUTH AFRICA, ARGENTINA,
CANADA, JAPAN, US), EXPORTERS PRESENTED A DETAILED NEW STOCKS
FINANCING PROPOSAL, THE BASIS ELEMENT OF WHICH IS A CONTRIBUTION
IN EITHER CASH OR SUGAR, BUT FINANCING WOULD COVER ONLY INTEREST
CHARGES, UP TO A FINITE LIMIT. IMPORTERS TOOK THE PAPER UNDER
STUDY BUT JAPAN AND CANADA REAFFIRMED THEIR POSITION THAT HIGHER
MINIMUM STOCKS WERE THE BALANCE FOR IMPORTER ACCEPTANCE OF QUOTAS.
SORENSEN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: ETRD, UNCTAD
To: STATE
Type: TE
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